



Department  
for Education

# Early Years Education Recovery Programme

- Childminder Mentor Programme  
– Delivery partner
- Market Engagement Event

# Agenda

- Welcome, introductions and housekeeping
- Overview of the Early Years Recovery Experts and Mentors Programme
- Overview of the Childminder Mentors Programme
- The delivery partner role
- Timeline
- Commercial and E-Tendering process
- 121 info and Q&A



# Welcome and Introductions

## Department for Education

Mairead Faulkner – Experts and Mentors Programme, Delivery Lead

Kylie Thomas – Experts and Mentors Programme, Delivery Lead

Helen Simpson - Experts and Mentors Programme, Policy Officer

Millie Harwood - Experts and Mentors Programme, Policy Officer

Sahir Iqbal – Commercial, Category Manager

Tom Wedge-Roberts – Commercial, Business Partner



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# Housekeeping

- Inform you, Inform us
- Session will be recorded for internal use only and the slide pack & Q&A shared
- Please use the “raise a hand” function if you are struggling to hear, or let us know in the chat.
- Muted and Cameras off
- Questions in the chat, answer session at the end
- There are no wrong questions, and we may not have all the answers today



# Objectives

To provide you with:

- Context of the Early Years Covid-19 Recovery Experts and Mentors Programme
- Information on the role of the Experts and Mentors childminder delivery partner
- An understanding of what we aim to achieve through the proposed activity and expected timelines



# Background

- We know that the **earliest years** are the most **crucial stage of child development** and attending early education supports children's social and emotional development and lays the foundation for lifelong learning. The average child aged 0-4 has lost an estimated 140 days of time in formal childcare during the pandemic.
- Evidence tells us that the **quality of education** and care in early years has the **biggest impact on children's outcomes** within a childcare setting. We have therefore designed a recovery programme for early years focussed on supporting practitioners and leaders, who are key to addressing the impact of the pandemic on the youngest children.
- We have secured up to £180m for investment in Early Years recovery. This will seek to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 by building a **stronger, more expert workforce**, enabling practitioners to deliver **high quality teaching** and help address the impact of the pandemic on the youngest children, particularly those in the most disadvantaged areas.
- These proposals build on our **reforms** to the **Early Years Foundation Stage** (EYFS) in 2021 to accelerate and embed real change for young children, which is more important than ever in light of the impact of the pandemic.
- **The Experts and Mentors programme** is one strand of the much wider programme supporting the early years workforce and stronger practice in settings.



# Overview of the Experts and Mentors Programme

- The Early Years Experts and Mentors programme supports early years practitioners, leaders and whole-settings.
- There are 3 different roles within the programme who will provide support to settings: Expert, Mentor & Area Lead.
- The Area Lead acts as a first point of contact to Experts and Mentors in their region, as well as providing support to settings themselves.
- Experts and Mentors provide bespoke support face-to-face and virtually to help meet individual settings' needs and priorities. The offer to settings includes leadership support, coaching for leaders, mentoring for practitioners and whole-setting support, depending on needs.
- The pilot programme began in two Regional Schools Commissioners (RSC) regions, Lancashire and West Yorkshire and the North of England, from April –July 2022.
- Roll out on a national scale, across England, begins in September 2022 (covering academic years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024).



# Overview of the childminder programme

- The Department for Education has developed a **childminder** strand called the Childminder Mentors programme. This will allow childminders to receive **mentoring** support.
- Mentors will provide support to childminders to complete the DfE's free **online child development training**, provide guidance to childminders on **the implementation of the revised EYFS** as well as providing advice on **improving practice**. Support provided by this programme will be predominately virtual.
- There will also be additional **Area Lead roles**. As with the main Experts and Mentors programme, Area Leads will be supporting Mentors where they have **difficulty engaging with their mentees** and providing **quality assurance**. Area Leads will also have their own mentees to support.
- Area Leads and Mentors will offer support to other childminders in **a cluster/group scenario**. We believe providing the support in clusters will allow for natural networking opportunities and the childminder's receiving the support will be able to support each other, rather than just relying on the support of their Mentor.
- This opens a gateway to peer-to-peer support with longevity, with potential to last beyond the end of the programme.





# The Delivery Partner Role

The Department requires a delivery partner to oversee and manage the logistical aspects of this programme. The successful bidder will utilise their expertise and understanding of the early years sector to fulfil a number of activities. These include but are not limited to;

- Managing **the recruitment process** of candidates to act as Mentors and Area Leads (the aim is to recruit around 200 candidates in total). This includes:
  - Assessing **Expressions of Interests** from candidates (written applications)
  - Conducting **video interviews** and open-source checks on all candidates
  - **Notifying** candidates on the outcome of their application
  - Undertaking **further recruitment** rounds if more candidates are needed.
- Organising the **matching** of candidates. This includes:
  - Matching candidates to a **local authority area**, ensuring national coverage is reached
  - Matching candidates to **childminders** in need of support.
- Collecting feedback and **management information** from various parties on a regular basis throughout the programme.
- **Communicating** with various parties, including **local authorities** and the **Department's Stronger Practice Hubs**.



# Involvement in the Programme

- Following feedback from our pilot programme, and discussions we have had with stakeholders, we believe there is sufficient demand for this programme to support childminders.
- The expansion of the programme to include the dedicated childminder strand provides an exciting opportunity for organisations with expertise in the sector to make a real difference to childminders and the children they support. This expertise will be beneficial to meet the requirements of the contract.
- The delivery partner will have the opportunity to develop working relationships with representatives who have the common aim of improving standards for children following the Covid-19 pandemic. This includes DfE, the appointed training partner, Local Authorities, Stronger Practice Hubs and childminders from across the country.



# Timeline\*

Date	Activity
w/c 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Procurement to launch
Mid-October	Procurement to close
Mid-November	Successful delivery partner in place and contract signed
Mid-December to Mid-January	Delivery partner to assess EOIs
Early-Feb – Early-March	Delivery partner matching candidates
Mid-April	Childminder programme begins
July – mid-Aug	Delivery partner to collect management information



# Tender Opportunity

The DfE will be looking to appoint a single supplier as a delivery partner for the childminder strand of the Experts and Mentors programme.

This Procurement is being undertaken in line with the Public Contract Regulations 2015.

The procurement route for the delivery partner will be via the DfE Education and Children & Social Care Professionals Dynamic Purchasing System (ECSC DPS)

A Call for competition is expected to be made w/c 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022

The resulting contract will be for 21 months



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# Tender Opportunity cont...

To be invited to submit a tender response for this opportunity, all suppliers MUST register in advance on DfE's e-procurement system Jaggaer and MUST successfully gain membership onto the ECSC DPS in at least one of the categories below by 13th September 2022.


This opportunity will be published under the categories:

- ECSC DPS/ ECSC-04 Developer of Practitioner Networks
- ECSC DPS/ECSC-06 Facilitator Services
- ECSC DPS/ECSC-13 Operational Development and Delivery Services



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Jaggaer registration: <https://education.app.jaggaer.com>



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Procurement at DfE

Crown Commercial  
Service

Contracts Finder

Tenders Electronic  
Daily (TED)

## Welcome to the DfE eTendering Portal

This website provides a suite of collaborative, web-based tools that enable procurement professionals and suppliers to conduct the strategic activities of the procurement lifecycle over the internet.

It provides a simple, secure and efficient means for managing tendering activities reducing the time and effort required for both buyers and suppliers.

[Click here to register!](#)

[Click here for details on how to register](#)

### Opportunities and notices

[View Opportunities](#)

Login

username

.....

Enter

[I cannot access my account](#)

Need assistance?

Please contact our eTendering helpdesk:

**Phone:**  
[0800 069 8630](tel:0800 069 8630)  
[+44 203 608 4013](tel:+44 203 608 4013)

**E-mail:**  
[help\\_UK@jaggaer.com](mailto:help_UK@jaggaer.com)

[Contact us](#)



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## Guidance on Supplier Registration for the DfE ECSC DPS

<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/Attachment/eb9ac94d-4d92-473b-ad03-f2f7d668de30>

# Tender opportunity cont...

Bidding organisations will be assessed in the following areas:

Evaluation Sections	Weighting
Mandatory Requirements	Pass/Fail
Quality (this includes social value at 10%)	80%
Price	20%

## Social Value is about added value

The additional value in the delivery of a contract where a wider community or public benefit can be created extending beyond the value of the contract itself.

### [Procurement Policy Note 06/20 - Taking account of social value in the award of central government contracts](#)

From 1 January 2021 , a minimum weighting of 10% of the total score for social value will be applied in a procurement  
Applies to procurements covered by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015,

**Applies to all central government departments.**



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# For more information

## Contact us

### Prior to publication -

By email: [EOI.EYRECOVERY@education.gov.uk](mailto:EOI.EYRECOVERY@education.gov.uk)

**Contracts Finder Notice** (for any updates until 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022):

[Early Years Covid Recovery Childminder Mentor Programme - Contracts Finder](#)

### Post publication –

Please raise all queries via Jaggaer.

### Post Market engagement questionnaire -

Please complete the market engagement questionnaire which can be found accessed via the link below: <https://forms.office.com/r/BVyzFF1Fy0>



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# Separate communication

If you would like to speak to us in a 1-2-1 conversation, please email the address below to arrange a 30minute call with us. We will be available to conduct these up until the tender goes live. Once the tender has gone live, you must communicate any questions to us via the online portal only.

Email: [EOI.EYRECOVERY@education.gov.uk](mailto:EOI.EYRECOVERY@education.gov.uk)

Please include:

- the organisation that you are from,
- your availability over the next couple of weeks,
- the email address to send the teams invitation/s to and,
- the names of the person/s that will attend.

We will then confirm the time and date and issue the teams invitation to you.



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# Q & A



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